

165

Macias, Wendy

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2009 11:11 AM
To: negreg09
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter to US Department of Education - Rulemaking Process
Attachments: DOE Rulemaking Process Comment.pdf

Please see the attached letter to Ms. Wendy Macias.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]



June 23, 2009

Ms. Wendy Macias
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street, N.W. Room 8017
Washington, DC 20006

Sent via Electronic Mail: negreg09@ed.gov

Dear Ms. Macias:

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of Apollo College – Tucson, AZ, thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments concerning the forthcoming negotiated rulemaking process.

Apollo College has a long and distinguished history in health care education. Students attend Apollo College to pursue health care careers in medical assisting, dental hygiene, physical therapy, respiratory care and medical radiography to name only a few high-demand fields. Apollo has worked tirelessly to develop and maintain strong and ongoing relationships with health care industry employers. Leading medical organizations, corporations and institutions regularly recruit Apollo graduates. Over the expanse of three decades, Apollo has served over 50,000 graduates who have gone on to meet the growing demand for high-quality health care professionals.

We strongly support that students attending all accredited institutions of higher education, regardless of an institution's public, private not-for-profit or proprietary status, be availed the resources and equal opportunity to attend the institution of their choice. If the United States is to emerge from the current economic downturn, it will require all sectors of education and multiple access and engagement points for a diverse array of students.

Apollo also heeds the Department's and Obama Administration's call to address the academic progress of American students from cradle to career. For most, but especially first time, first-generation students, discovering tangible college pathways is key to attaining educational success.

The Apollo College Tucson Campus serves a predominately Hispanic student population drawing primarily from the low income neighborhoods in which the college is situated. A good number of the students entering the college come from the ranks of the unemployed and rely on some sort of government assistance to survive. With an Apollo College education and placement assistance from our Career Services department, they are able to break free of their government subsidy and assume

responsible positions in the healthcare field. Tucson and the surrounding communities benefit from the addition of another qualified healthcare professional; the United States benefits as one more leaves the welfare roles and becomes a contributing member of our society; and most importantly the individual benefits as they can now have life skills that will carry them forward. As one of our graduates notes in a letter to the campus "Thank you again. Without you guys helping me find a job, I wouldn't be successful in my life."

Sincerely,

